Cancel claims 14-19.

B1 Cont

Add new claims 20 and 21.

20. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said support is a biochip.

21. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein said cellulose derivatives are cellulose acetate or cellulose-mixed ester.

REMARKS

The Amendment

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitation of claims 4, 8 and 10. Claims 4-7 and 10 are canceled.

Claims 14-19 are canceled as drawn to non-elected inventions.

New claim 20 is supported by page 7, lines 10-12 of the last paragraph.

New claim 21 is supported by claim 1 as filed.

The Response

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §121:

I. Claims 1-13, drawn to a method of derivatizing a surface;

II. Claims 14 and 15, drawn to a support; and

III. Claims 17-19, drawn to a method of attaching biopolymers.

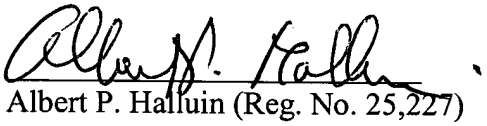
In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-3, 8, 9, 11-13 and new claims 20 and 21 for prosecution. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present claims directed to the remaining allegedly distinct groups in one or more continuing or divisional applications.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is in good and proper condition for allowance. Early notification of allowance is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 463-8109.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 30, 2003



Albert P. Halluin (Reg. No. 25,227)
Viola T. Kung (Reg. No. 41,131)

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
301 Ravenswood Avenue
Box No. 34
Menlo Park, CA 94025
(650) 463-8109

MAY 30 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

MARKED UP-VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A method of [derivatizing carriers or support] functionalizing a support, comprising the steps of:
[wherein] activating a functional group [is activated] on a [carrier or] support surface [by reaction] with an activating reagent, and
subsequently [reacted] reacting the activated functional group with [an amine] a polyamine component to produce a dendrimeric structure on the support surface, wherein the activating reagent is acryloylchloride, 4-nitrophenylchloroformate, carbonyl diimidazole, phenyl chloroformate, phosgene, disphosgene, triphosgene, EDC(N-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-N'-ethyl-carbodiimide hydrochloride), N,N'-diisopropyl carbodiimide, dicyclohexyl carbodiimide, disuccinimidyl carbonate, disuccinimidyl oxalate, dimethylsuberimidate dihydrochloride, or phenylene diisothiocyanate.

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the [supports are] support is selected from the group consisting of glass, sheets [or], and films or membranes made from polypropylene, nylon, cellulose, cellulose derivatives [(e.g. cellulose acetate, cellulose-mixed ester)], polyether sulfones, polyamides, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinylidene fluoride, polyester, polyethylene [or] and Teflon.

3. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim [2] 1, wherein the functional group is an amine, hydroxyl, phosphate, carboxyl, carbonyl, thiol or amide group.

Cancel claims 4-7.

8. (Amended) The method according to claim [5] 1, wherein the polyamine is tetraethylene pentamine, spermine, spermidine, 4,7,10-trioxa-1,13-tridecanediamine, or 4-aminomethyl-1,8-octanediamine.

9. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the steps of [the reaction with an] reacting the activating reagent [and an amine] with the polyamine component are carried out several times.

Cancel claim 10.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein a positive charge is built up in a controlled fashion on the support surface.

12. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the functionalized support surface [derivatized] according to claim 2 is additionally activated prior to the attachment of biopolymers.

13. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 12, wherein [said] the functionalized support surface is additionally activated by an activating agent [is] selected from the group consisting of disuccinimidyl carbonate, disuccinimidyl oxalate, glutaraldehyde, dimethylsuberimidate dihydrochloride [or], and phenylene diisothiocyanate.

Cancel claims 14-19.

Add new claims 20 and 21.

20. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein said support is a biochip.

21. (New) The method according to claim 2, wherein said cellulose derivatives are cellulose acetate or cellulose-mixed ester.